

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /011 R

66640

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R 280101 Z JUN 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T STATE 124050

EXDIS

FOL TEL SENT BEIRUT FROM SECSTATE JUNE 25 TH:

QUOTE: STATE 124050

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: MASS, LE, US

SUBJECT: GOL REQUEST FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE

REF: BEIRUT 5968

1. DEPARTMENT AND DOD HAVE MADE CAREFUL REVIEW OF GOL ARMS REQUEST TRANSMITTED REFTEL. ITEMS REQUESTED HAVE BEEN GROUPED ACCORDING TO AVAILABILITY BY CATEGORIES, AS FOLLOWS:

A. ITEMS IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE - THESE ARE THREE MILLION ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, 2,000 SETS OF BODY ARMOR, THREE BAILEY BRIDGES, AND 2,500 FIRST AID POUCHES. TOTAL ESTIMATED COST IS APPROXIMATELY DOLS. 2.6 MILLION.

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B. ITEMS AVAILABLE WITHIN 3 TO 6 MONTHS - THESE ARE
60 M 113 A1 ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS, 45 GUNSHIELDS FOR
APCS, TWO 52 FOOT SWIFT PATROL BOATS, 17,500 FIRST AID
POUCHES, 150 STARLIGHT SCOPES FOR M-16 RIFLES, 3 CENTRAL
OFFICE TELEPHONE SYSTEMS, AND 4 UH-1 H UTILITY HELICOPTERS.
TOTAL COST ESTIMATED AT DOLS 5.2 MILLION.

2. YOU SHOULD INFORM GOL WE ARE PREPARED TO MAKE AVAILABLE
FOREGOING EQUIPMENT, ON SALES BASIS, WITHIN APPROXIMATE
TIME FRAMES INDICATED ABOVE. PACKAGE WOULD TOTAL AN ES-
TIMATED DOLS 7.8 MILLION.

3. RE A-4 SKYHAWKS, YOU SHOULD SAY WE ARE CONSIDERING
LEBANESE REQUEST AND HOPE TO BE IN POSITION TO RESPOND
SHORTLY.

4. YOU SHOULD TELL GOL WE WOULD LIKE TO PURSUE DIS-
CUSSION WITH THEM ON REMAINING ITEMS REQUESTED (REFTEL)
IN ORDER BETTER TO DETERMINE TACTICAL SUITABILITY AND
PRIORITIES IN LIGHT OF PRICE AND AVAILABILITY. LEBANESE
ARE AWARE OF LEAD TIME AND PRICE PROBLEM WITH REGARD TO
M60 A1 TANK. M-48 A5 TANK WITH 105 MM GUN WHICH LEBANESE
SAY THEY ARE READY TO ACCEPT IN ITS PLACE (BEIRUT 6123)
HAS NEVER BEEN PRODUCED IN U. S. EXCEPT IN PROTOTYPE. WE
MIGHT BE ABLE TO OFFER M-48 A3 WITH DIESEL ENGINE, BUT
THIS MODEL HAS ONLY 90 MM GUN. WITH REGARD TO GOL' S RE-
QUEST FOR 155 MM SELF- PROPELLED ARTILLERY AND ADVANCED
ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT (M728 COMBAT ENGINEER VEHICLES AND
ARMORED VEHICLE BRIDGE LAUN(HERS) WE WANT TO EXPLORE WITH
GOL WHETHER THESE ITEMS REPRESENT BEST CHOICE IN TERMS
COST AND AVAILABILITY AND OF LEBANESE DEFENSE REQUIREMENTS.
WITH REGARD TO HELICOPTER ARMAMENT SYSTEMS, WE HAVE NEVER
SUPPLIED THIS ADVANCED EQUIPMENT TO ANY COUNTRIES OF NEAR
EAST. CURRENT POLICY ALSO FORECLOSES SALE OF FLAME-
THROWERS. ROGERS UNQUOTE ROGERS

SECRET

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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